

Messiah Lutheran Church

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Prince Albert, S6V 8A1

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Pastor Fran Schmidt

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Pastor Fran will be on Study Leave March 17 – 23.

Contact Messiah office if you are needing assistance or call Cheryl Bauer Hyde @ 306-961-2967.

For the week of March 15-19, the Messiah office will be open Tuesday – Friday from 10am- 4pm for limited church-related matters. Note the use of hand sanitizer and wearing of masks is required for anyone entering the building.

Worship for Sunday, March 14, 2021

4th Sunday in Lent, Year B

Holy Communion

Assisting with Worship: Elaine Serfas, Merv Bender, Marcie Klassen, Hayley Remus

Messiah Worship Services are live on Sunday mornings at 10:30 am (in-person services are suspended at this time) by going to the Messiah Lutheran Church Prince Albert YouTube page and look for “live” feed. To watch the service at a later time or if there are technical issues, the recorded service will be available on Messiah Facebook page and Website by 1:00 pm each Sunday.

Prayers for Healing and On-Going Health Concerns:

We pray for comfort and healing for all those who are suffering in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their time of need.



Our sincere condolences to the family of Joyce Nilson who passed away on Monday, March 8, 2021 with her family by her side. Please keep the Nilson family in your prayers.



If you are wishing to donate flowers for Easter Sunday, call the Messiah office to arrange a time to drop off the flowers. If you wish to have them dedicated in honour or memory of loved ones and published in the bulletin, please call the office by Wednesday, March 31.

This Week

- **Online Sunday School continues at 11:30 am** each Sunday. **March packets can be picked up this week** during office hours (Tuesday – Friday; 10am - 4pm). Please call the Messiah office if you have any questions, or if you would like to have a packet(s) delivered.
- **Confirmation Sunday, March 14 @ 7:00 pm. There will be no confirmation on March 21.**
- **Lectionary Bible Study on Wednesday morning @ 10 am, and Wednesday evening on Zoom** following the Lenten Devotion as outlined below. Please contact the Messiah office or Pastor Fran for login information.



- **A brief Lenten Devotion will be held each Wednesday evening beginning @ 7 pm. The last one being March 24.** The Lectionary Bible Study will follow for those that would like to participate in it as well.



April 1 @ 7pm – Maundy Thursday Service
April 2 @ 11am – Good Friday Service
April 4 @ 10:30 a.m. Easter Sunday Service
All Services will be live-streamed on the
Messiah YouTube channel.

KINASAO'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

Kinasao's Annual General Meeting is **on Sunday, March 28, 2:00 pm, via Zoom**. Pre-registration for the meeting is required, and can be accessed through the Kinasao website. Messiah is a member congregation of Kinasao Lutheran Bible Camp. Therefore, all members are eligible to vote at the Kinasao AGM. Please plan to attend and join the discussion on many important upcoming matters — details are provided in the Annual Report, available on Kinasao's website.



GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray, **O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Numbers 21:4-9

Though God provides food and water for the Israelites in the wilderness, they whine and grumble. They forget about the salvation they experienced in the exodus. God punishes them for their sin, but when they repent God also provides a means of healing: a bronze serpent lifted up on a pole.

⁴From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." ⁶Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." ⁹So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 107:1-3, 17-22

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good, for God's mercy endures forever.

²**Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,**

³gathering them in from the lands; from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

¹⁷**Some were fools and took rebellious paths; through their sins they were afflicted.**

¹⁸They loathed all manner of food and drew near to death's door.

¹⁹**Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD and you delivered them from their distress.**

²⁰You sent forth your word and healed them and rescued them from the grave.

²¹**Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love and your wonderful works for all people.**

²²Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW, p. 151, Setting 4, "Return to the Lord"

GOSPEL: John 3:14-21

The holy gospel according to John in the third chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

To explain the salvation of God to the religious leader, Nicodemus, Jesus refers to the scripture passage quoted in today's first reading. Just as those who looked upon the bronze serpent were healed, so people will be saved when they behold Christ lifted up on the cross.

[Jesus said:] ¹⁴Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**SERMON**

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 779 "Amazing Grace" (Vs. 1 & 3)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need, praying Hear us, O God, and responding, **Your mercy is great.**

...

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray,

Faithful God, **you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

As we walk through the Great Thanksgiving and as we share communion here and at home, we do so believing that it is God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit who unites us in all times and in all places. This is God's gift of grace for you even as we gather online in our worship today.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest,

hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

As we share this meal wherever we are, we are fed by the body and blood of Christ.

Thanks be to God!

COMMUNION

As we share our communion at home, you may say “this is the body of Christ given for you”, as you consume the bread or wafer. And you may say “this is the blood of Christ given for you, “as you consume the wine or grape juice.

TABLE BLESSING

Now may the body and blood of our precious Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace, now and unto everlasting life. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray, God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor.

God bless you that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity. †

Three-Fold Sung Amen.

SENDING HYMN: ELW 494 "For the Bread" (Vs. 1, 2 & 4)**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.